

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A visual display unit which displays a graphical user interface for representing and facilitating user manipulation of persistent yet revocable access control settings for a resource comprising:

one or more display regions for graphical representations of all access control settings for the resource, ~~which~~ wherein the graphical representations result from transformations applied to the structured data which defines the access control settings for the resource; and

one or more display regions for normal size, legibly scaled, unabridged representation of the content of the resource;

wherein the set of display regions for representations of the access control settings and the display region for representation of the content of the resource are concurrently visible, are concurrently operable, and appear to the operator as in an integrated graphical user interface; and wherein the resource is a digital document.

2. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein one or more functions modify the spatial layout of the display regions for representations of the access control settings.

3. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein one or more functions modify the number of the display regions for representations of the access control settings.

4. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein one or more functions modify the transformations that are applied to the structured data.

5. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

6. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 5, wherein the likeness comprises, at least in part, a digital photograph, processed by a method including at least one step selected from the set of: adjusting image color saturation toward a predetermined target saturation level; converting to grayscale; adjusting image brightness toward a predetermined target brightness level; adjusting image contrast toward a predetermined target contrast level; adjusting image sharpness

toward a predetermined target sharpness level; and masking with a shape selected from a set comprising ovals and outlines of a bust.

7. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the set of display regions further comprises:

- a display region for a graphical representation of the set of groups, users and roles defined by existing structured data for the resource and their respective access privileges; and

- a display region for a graphical representation of the result of transforming the set of groups, users and roles and their respective access privileges into a corresponding set of individual users and their respective effective access privileges.

8. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 1, further comprising a first display region for a graphical representation of at least one set of known users and groups, wherein the operator can designate indicia for known users and groups and visually associate the designated indicia with a second display region to change the structured data which defines the access control settings for the resource.

9. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 8, wherein the first display region is reduced in size until activated by the user, and the first display region is increased in size upon activation.

10. (Currently amended) A visual display unit which displays a graphical user interface for representing access log information and access control settings for a resource, wherein at least one display region contains a graphical representation of a set comprising one or more individual users, and wherein each of the individual users is graphically represented by a visual element which comprises:

- the identity of the individual user having read privilege for the resource; and

- a differing visual element for indicating if the user has write privilege for the resource; and one or more of the following visual elements:

- representation of the time of the most recent read access by the user to the resource;

- representation of the time of the most recent write access by the user to the resource;

- indication whether the most recent write access by the user to the resource is the most recent write access by any user to the resource;

indication whether the most recent read access by the user to the resource has been before the most recent write access by any user to the resource;

indication whether the most recent read access by the user to the resource has been since the most recent write access by any user to the resource; and

indication whether the user currently is without read privilege for the resource; and

wherein the resource is a digital document.

11. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 10, wherein the set of individual users consists of: the set of users who have any access privilege at all for the resource; and the set of users who have accessed the resource in the past although they currently are without any access privilege for the resource.

12. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 10, further comprising a display region for a normal size, legibly scaled, unabridged representation of the content of the resource, wherein the display region for representation of the set of users and the display region for representation of the resource appear to the operator as an integrated graphical user interface.

13.-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 10, wherein graphical representations of users are sorted by one or more of the following attributes:

the time of the most recent access by the user;

the time of the most recent write access by the user; and

current privileges the user has for the resource.

29. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 10, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

30. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 12, wherein the set of individual users consists of: the set of users who have any access privilege at all for the resource; and the set of users who have accessed the resource in the past although they currently are without any access privilege for the resource.

31. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 12, wherein graphical representations of users are sorted by one or more of the following attributes:

the time of the most recent access by the user;

the time of the most recent write access by the user; and

current privileges the user has for the resource.

32. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 12, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

33. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 8, wherein the set further comprises access control settings macros and the operator can designate indicia for macros and visually associate the designated indicia with the second display region to change the structured data which defines the access control settings for the resource.

35. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 33, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

36. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 7, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

37. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 36, wherein the likeness comprises, at least in part, a digital photograph, processed by a method including at least one step selected from the set of: adjusting image color saturation toward a predetermined target saturation level; converting to grayscale; adjusting image brightness toward a predetermined target brightness level; adjusting image contrast toward a predetermined target contrast level; adjusting image sharpness toward a predetermined target sharpness level; and masking with a shape selected from a set comprising ovals and outlines of a bust.

38. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 8, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

39. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 38, wherein the likeness comprises, at least in part, a digital photograph, processed by a method including at least one step selected from the set of: adjusting image color saturation toward a predetermined target saturation

level; converting to grayscale; adjusting image brightness toward a predetermined target brightness level; adjusting image contrast toward a predetermined target contrast level; adjusting image sharpness toward a predetermined target sharpness level; and masking with a shape selected from a set comprising ovals and outlines of a bust.

40. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 30, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

41. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 40, wherein the likeness comprises, at least in part, a digital photograph, processed by a method including at least one step selected from the set of: adjusting image color saturation toward a predetermined target saturation level; converting to grayscale; adjusting image brightness toward a predetermined target brightness level; adjusting image contrast toward a predetermined target contrast level; adjusting image sharpness toward a predetermined target sharpness level; and masking with a shape selected from a set comprising ovals and outlines of a bust.

42. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 31, wherein a user is graphically represented by a display element comprising, at least in part, a likeness of the user.

43. (Currently amended) The visual display unit ~~graphical user interface~~ of claim 38, wherein the first display region is reduced in size until activated by the user, and the first display region is increased in size upon activation.